

**Federal Public Defender  
for the Middle District of Florida**

**Position Title: Legal Assistant #2012-009**

**Duty Station:** Tampa, Florida

**Grade / Salary Range:** Grade 6 - Grade 8 (Salary Commensurate with Experience)

**Qualifications:** The Legal Assistant provides secretarial and clerical support services to the office's staff attorneys. The Legal Assistant's duties include, but are not limited to: transcription, dictation, editing, and proofreading of initial draft correspondence, motions and briefs, utilizing their knowledge of legal terminology; preparation of pleading indexes; maintaining client files, case history and case management; maintaining court, office main calendar and attorney calendars; scheduling meetings between attorneys and clients; and receiving and routing incoming and outgoing mail. Legal Assistant's responsibilities also include reception duties, communicating with clients; electronic document filing, library / file room maintenance, photocopying, scanning and other related duties as assigned. Spanish speaking is preferred. To qualify for this position a person must be high school graduate or equivalent, with a minimum of two years general secretarial experience and one year specialized secretarial experience (criminal preferred). Education above the high school level may be substituted for some experience. Candidates should possess proficiency in word processing, the ability to type accurately at a preferred minimum rate of 70 wpm, knowledge of legal terminology, excellent communication skills and a professional demeanor. Final candidates will be subject to a typing and written skills test.

**Additional Experience and Proven Skill in the following areas:**

1. Broad familiarity with computer programs and/or systems (including WordPerfect, Adobe, CaseMap, Power Point, Trial Director, Excel, Summation, etc.), computer hardware and software, and familiarity with using the Internet is highly desirable. Candidates with courtroom litigation support experience is a plus.
2. Knowledge of the State or Federal criminal justice system, Electronic Court Filing (ECF) system, and related agencies preferred;
3. The ability to exercise good judgment in a mature and diplomatic manner, must possess a general understanding of office confidentiality issues, such as attorney/client privilege;
4. A comprehensive knowledge of legal secretarial principles, practices, methods and techniques;
5. The ability to identify and evaluate pertinent facts and regulations, policies and precedents;
6. Skill and judgment in the analysis of assignments;
7. Able to work long hours, weekends, and holidays as needed, as well as travel both in and out of state as required.

**Information for Applicants:**

**Deadline** to submit applications is **FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2012.**

Send **PDF** format of a cover letter, a resume and three professional references via email. Documents in Word format will not be considered. Submit applications to:

**Federal Public Defender  
Attn: Martha Lugo, Secretary to FPD  
400 N. Tampa Street, Suite 2700, Tampa, FL 33602  
martha\_lugo@fd.org**

The Federal Public Defender's office is a branch of the U.S. Courts, an Equal Opportunity Employer, and operates under authority of the Criminal Justice Act, 18 U.S.C. Section 3006A, to provide indigent defense services in federal criminal cases and related matters in the federal courts. This is Excepted Service Employment with Federal Government Benefits. Salary is Based on Experience. This position is subject to mandatory Electronic Funds Transfer (Direct Deposit) of federal salary payment. Only qualified applicants will be considered for this position. Applicants must be U.S. Citizens or eligible to work in and for the United States. Applicants selected for interviews must travel at their own expense. This position is subject to a background investigation, therefore, the successful applicant will undergo a mandatory criminal background check investigation, which will include the completion of fingerprint checks. The FDO provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please notify Ms. Lugo at (813) 228-2715. The decision on granting reasonable accommodations will be made on a case by case basis.

**POSTING DATE: February 28, 2012 to March 16, 2012, 5:00 p.m. E.S.T.**